

CATALOGUE NO. 1307.1
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ECONOMIC INDICATORS, NEW SOUTH WALES MAY 1995

MAIN FEATURES

Employment

Seasonally adjusted, the estimated number of employed persons in NSW in April 1995 was 2,738,200, an increase of 1.2% from March 1995 and an increase of 4.3% since April 1994. Nationally, the seasonally adjusted number of employed persons increased by 1.1% between March and April 1995 and by 5.1% over the last 12 months.

Unemployment

The seasonally adjusted estimate of unemployed people in NSW in April 1995 was 228,800. This was 7.5% lower than in March 1995 and 22.2% lower than April 1994. The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in NSW for April 1995 was 7.7% compared the national rate of 8.3%.

Building Approvals

The seasonally adjusted number of new dwelling units approved in NSW in March 1995 (3,804) fell by 15.2% from the previous month (4,487). The fall was widespread, with numbers for Houses and Other residential buildings recording significant decreases.

New Motor Vehicle Registrations

The seasonally adjusted figure for new motor vehicle registrations in NSW fell by 6.4% from 19,395 in February 1995 to 18,160 in March 1995.

Finance

The value of personal and commercial commitments made in NSW in March 1995 increased by 25.7% and 49.9% respectively over February 1995.

NOTES

This publication provides information on a wide range of economic indicators which are the latest available at the time of publication. In a number of cases, figures appearing in this summary are preliminary and are subject to revision in subsequent issues.

For detailed explanatory notes and definitions for the items shown in this publication, readers are referred to the specific ABS publications.

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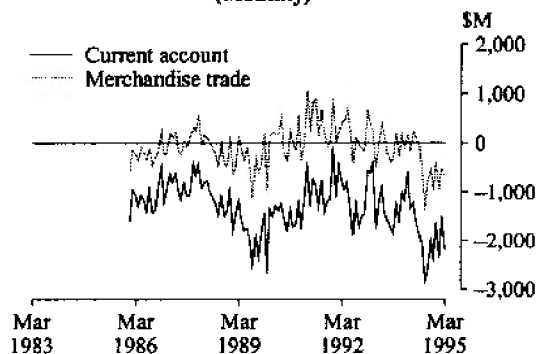
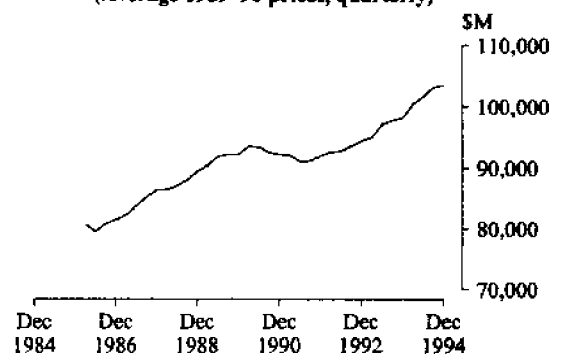
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INQUIRIES:

- *for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics*, contact John Petersen on Sydney (02) 268 4586 or any ABS office.
- *for information about other ABS statistics and services* please contact Information Services on Sydney (02) 268 4611 or any ABS office.

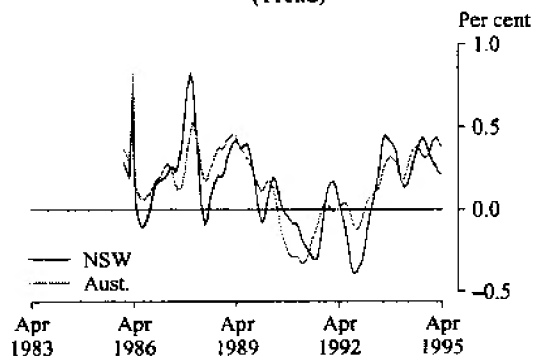
NATIONAL ECONOMY

| Indicator | Unit | Latest period | Change over prior period | Change over year | | | |
|--|----------|---------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| National Accounts percentage change, average 1989-90 prices, (seasonally adjusted)— | | | | | | | |
| Gross non-farm product | per cent | Dec. qtr 94 | 0.5 | 6.6 | | | |
| Gross domestic product | per cent | Dec. qtr 94 | 0.4 | 5.5 | | | |
| <i>Figures for preceding periods</i> | | | | | | | |
| Indicator | Unit | Latest period | Latest figure | One period ago | Two periods ago | Three periods ago | Figure one year ago |
| Balance of payments— | | | | | | | |
| Merchandise exports | \$m | Mar. 95 | 6,119 | 5,118 | 4,885 | 5,513 | 5,633 |
| Merchandise imports | \$m | Apr. 95 | -5,695 | -6,812 | -5,611 | -5,788 | -4,927 |
| Balance on merchandise trade | \$m | Mar. 95 | -693 | -493 | -903 | -408 | -160 |
| Balance on goods and services | \$m | Mar. 95 | -689 | -105 | -829 | -396 | -139 |
| Balance on current account | \$m | Mar. 95 | -2,188 | -1,489 | -2,354 | -1,625 | -1,337 |
| Balance on current account (seasonally adjusted) | \$m | Mar. 95 | -2,319 | -2,115 | -2,220 | -2,323 | -1,280 |
| Terms of trade for goods and service— | | | | | | | |
| Index (seasonally adjusted) 1989-90 = 100 | | Dec. qtr 94 | 91.2 | 89.1 | 88.4 | 87.6 | 87.8 |
| Exchange Rates at end of period— | | | | | | | |
| SUS/\$A | | Mar. 95 | 0.7280 | 0.7395 | 0.7583 | 0.7768 | 0.7008 |
| Trade weighted index of value \$A May 1970 = 100 | | Mar. 95 | 50.7 | 52.9 | 54.5 | 56.2 | 52.1 |
| Interest Rates— | | | | | | | |
| Prime rate (Source: Reserve Bank) | per cent | May 95 | 10.60-10.75 | 10.60-10.75 | 10.65-10.75 | 10.60-10.75 | 8.95-9.00 |

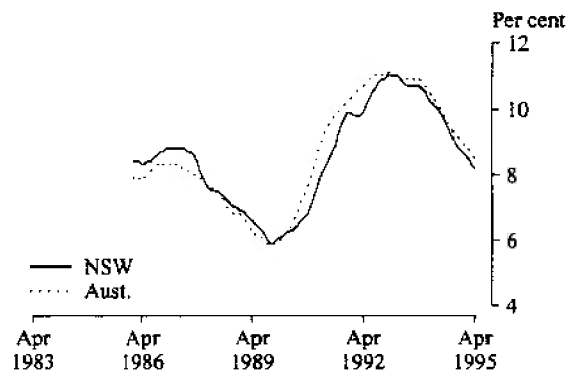
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS
AUSTRALIA
(Monthly)GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT, AUSTRALIA
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(Average 1989-90 prices, quarterly)NEW SOUTH WALES IN RELATION TO OTHER STATES AND AUSTRALIA
(per cent)

| Indicator | Latest period | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA | WA | Tas. | Aust. |
|--|---------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) | Apr. 95 | 7.7 | 8.7 | 8.3 | 9.9 | 7.3 | 9.9 | 8.3 |
| Percentage change from previous year— | | | | | | | | |
| Employed persons | Apr. 95 | 4.3 | 4.4 | 7.9 | 2.2 | 6.4 | 4.1 | 5.0 |
| Consumer price index: all groups | Mar. qtr 95 | 4.2 | 3.4 | 4.5 | 3.7 | 4.1 | 3.8 | 3.9 |
| Average weekly employee earnings: | | | | | | | | |
| full-time adult ordinary time (trend estimates) | Feb. 95 | 5.8 | 4.1 | 2.4 | 2.1 | 4.8 | 1.9 | 4.2 |
| Retail turnover (trend estimates) | Mar. 95 | 4.2 | 9.6 | 7.6 | 9.3 | 2.9 | 0.2 | 6.3 |
| New motor vehicle registrations | Mar. 95 | 11.3 | 10.6 | 4.7 | 10.4 | -1.9 | 13.4 | 8.7 |
| Dwelling units approved | Mar. 95 | -11.7 | -13.0 | -30.0 | -11.9 | -27.6 | -13.5 | -20.6 |
| Value of non-residential building approved | Mar. 95 | 52.7 | -20.1 | 33.0 | 163.6 | 0.9 | 62.3 | 23.4 |
| Value of all buildings approved | Mar. 95 | 20.1 | -13.2 | -19.2 | 44.3 | -14.1 | 0.1 | -2.9 |
| Value of engineering construction work done | Dec. qtr 94 | 17.3 | 5.7 | 9.4 | -9.8 | -23.2 | -32.4 | 4.7 |
| Room occupancy rate in licensed hotels and motels etc. | Dec. qtr 94 | 6.7 | 11.8 | 2.6 | 5.4 | 6.6 | 2.6 | 6.3 |
| Actual private new capital expenditure | Dec. qtr 94 | 37.9 | -12.5 | 32.0 | 81.0 | 22.7 | 50.4 | 21.2 |

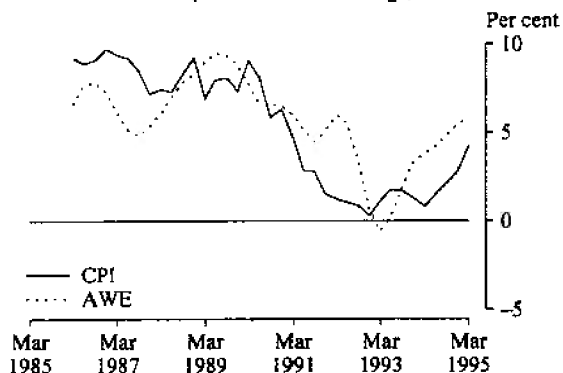
MONTHLY CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED
(Trend)



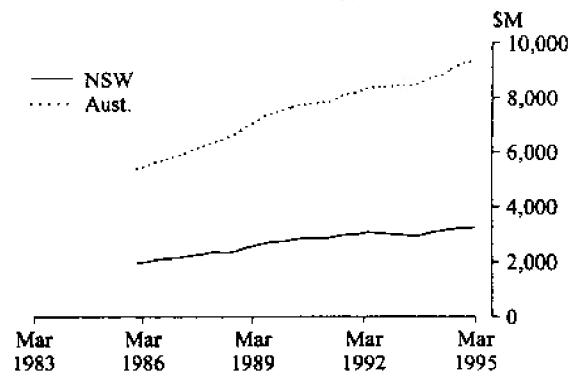
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE
(Trend)



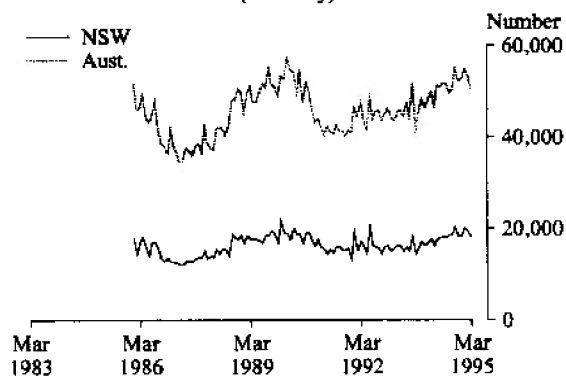
PRICES AND EARNINGS, NSW
(Annual rate of change)



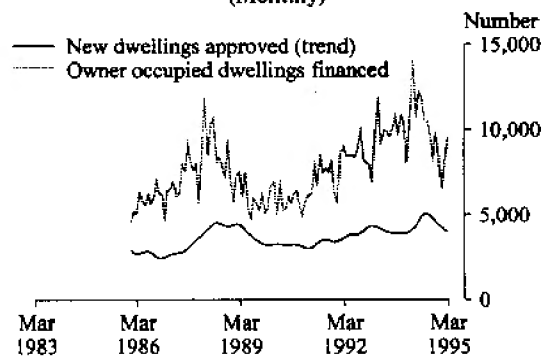
RETAIL TURNOVER
(Trend, monthly)



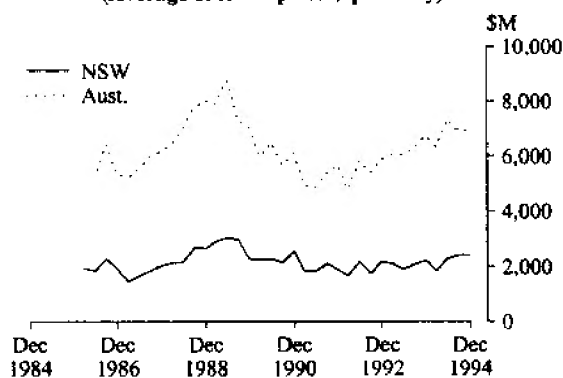
NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED
(Monthly)



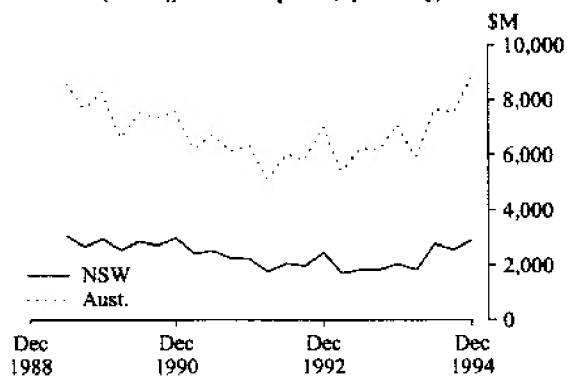
NEW DWELLINGS APPROVED AND HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS, NSW
(Monthly)



VALUE OF ALL BUILDINGS COMMENCED
(Average 1989-90 prices, quarterly)



PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE
(Average 1989-90 prices, quarterly)



NEW SOUTH WALES IN RELATION TO AUSTRALIA

| Indicator | Unit | Latest period | New South Wales | | | Australia | | |
|--|------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | | Latest figure | Change from prior period | Change from same period | Latest figure | Change from prior period | Change from same period |
| | | | | (per cent) | (per cent) | | (per cent) | (per cent) |
| Population | | | | | | | | |
| Estimated resident population | '000 | Sept. qtr 94 | 6,069 | 0.29 | 0.94 | 17,897 | 0.30 | 1.07 |
| Civilian population aged 15 years and over | '000 | Apr. 95 | 4,787 | 0.10 | 1.14 | 14,089 | 0.13 | 1.34 |
| Labour Force | | | | | | | | |
| Employed persons—full-time (original series) | '000 | Apr. 95 | 2,101 | 1.0 | 3.4 | 6,184 | 0.9 | 4.3 |
| —total (original series) | '000 | Apr. 95 | 2,743 | 1.1 | 4.3 | 8,231 | 0.8 | 5.0 |
| —total (seasonally adjusted) | '000 | Apr. 95 | 2,738 | 1.2 | 4.3 | 8,238 | 1.1 | 5.1 |
| Unemployed persons—(original series) | '000 | Apr. 95 | 226 | -12.7 | -22.3 | 743 | -8.9 | -15.9 |
| —(seasonally adjusted) | '000 | Apr. 95 | 229 | -7.5 | -22.2 | 744 | -3.7 | -15.8 |
| Labour force (seasonally adjusted) | '000 | Apr. 95 | 2,967 | 0.4 | 1.6 | 8,982 | 0.7 | 2.9 |
| Participation rate (seasonally adjusted) | per cent | Apr. 95 | 62.0 | 0.3 | 0.5 | 63.7 | 0.6 | 1.6 |
| Unemployment rate (seasonally adjusted) | per cent | Apr. 95 | 7.7 | -7.9 | -23.4 | 8.3 | -4.4 | -18.2 |
| Job vacancies | '000 | Feb. 95 | 24 | -17.6 | 33.4 | 57 | -13.3 | 24.9 |
| Weekly paid overtime per employee (a) | hours | Feb. 95 | 7.2 | -2.8 | -6.6 | 7.3 | -2.8 | 0.7 |
| Average Weekly Employee Earnings | | | | | | | | |
| Full-time adult ordinary time earnings (trend estimates) | \$ | Feb. 95 | 661.80 | 1.3 | 5.8 | 636.00 | 1.0 | 4.2 |
| All employees total earnings (trend estimates) | \$ | Feb. 95 | 568.60 | 0.7 | 4.8 | 544.40 | 0.4 | 3.4 |
| Industrial Disputes—Working days lost | | | | | | | | |
| | '000 | Jan. 95 | 2.0 | -75.9 | -48.7 | 12.3 | -76.3 | 127.8 |
| Consumer Price Index, All Groups 1989-90=100 | | Mar. qtr 95 | 113.7 | 1.7 | 4.2 | 114.7 | 1.7 | 3.9 |
| Retail Turnover (trend estimates) | \$m | Mar. 95 | 3,269 | 0.1 | 4.2 | 9,365 | 0.2 | 6.3 |
| New Motor Vehicle Registrations (seasonally adjusted) | No. | Mar. 95 | 18,160 | -6.4 | 12.5 | 50,439 | -5.3 | 9.4 |
| Passenger vehicles (seasonally adjusted) | No. | Mar. 95 | 15,253 | -7.4 | 12.2 | 41,764 | -6.0 | 9.3 |
| Other motor vehicles (excl. motor cycles) (seas. adj.) | No. | Mar. 95 | 2,907 | -0.6 | 14.0 | 8,675 | -1.4 | 10.2 |
| Production | | | | | | | | |
| Clay bricks (seasonally adjusted) (b) | million | Mar. 95 | 56.9 | -9.2 | -5.2 | 140 | -10.0 | -6.6 |
| Electricity (seasonally adjusted) | mill. kWh | Mar. 95 | 5,113 | 2.2 | 3.6 | 13,696 | -0.8 | 1.6 |
| Gas (seasonally adjusted) (b) | terajoules | Mar. 95 | 8,295 | 4.0 | 1.4 | 52,067 | 1.1 | -0.9 |
| Overseas Trade | | | | | | | | |
| Imports | \$m | Apr. 95 | 2,620 | -12.7 | 15.5 | 5,750 | -15.0 | 14.2 |
| Exports, Australian produce | \$m | Mar. 95 | 1,336 | 15.3 | 0.7 | 5,915 | 19.8 | 9.7 |
| Tourism | | | | | | | | |
| Overseas visitor short-term arrivals | '000 | Mar. 95 | 143 | 7.1 | 6.0 | 319 | 5.0 | 4.9 |
| Resident overseas short-term departures | '000 | Mar. 95 | 62 | -12.3 | -3.0 | 152 | -8.5 | 1.0 |
| Licensed hotels, motels etc. with facilities— | | | | | | | | |
| Guest nights | '000 | Dec. qtr 94 | 5,410 | 0.6 | 5.6 | 15,857 | 0.3 | 5.6 |
| Room occupancy rate | per cent | Dec. qtr 94 | 58.8 | 2.8 | 6.7 | 59.0 | 1.0 | 6.3 |
| Building | | | | | | | | |
| Approvals— | | | | | | | | |
| New dwelling units (seasonally adjusted) | No. | Mar. 95 | 3,804 | -15.2 | -9.6 | 12,830 | -4.3 | -17.9 |
| Value of new residential building (seasonally adj.) | \$m | Mar. 95 | 441 | 8.1 | 19.1 | 1,174 | -1.2 | -11.2 |
| Value of non-residential building | \$m | Mar. 95 | 258 | -28.9 | 52.7 | 737 | -18.7 | 23.4 |
| Value of all building | \$m | Mar. 95 | 798 | -0.1 | 20.1 | 2,198 | 1.2 | -2.9 |
| Commencements— | | | | | | | | |
| New dwelling units | No. | Dec. qtr 94 | 13,201 | -10.4 | 13.8 | 45,646 | -7.5 | 2.8 |
| Value of new residential buildings (c) | \$m | Dec. qtr 94 | 1,399 | -3.7 | 28.1 | 4,087 | -6.6 | 9.9 |
| Value of non-residential building (c) | \$m | Dec. qtr 94 | 724 | 2.5 | -19.1 | 2,226 | 11.9 | -9.6 |
| Value of all building (c) | \$m | Dec. qtr 94 | 2,440 | -0.1 | 8.9 | 6,961 | 0.1 | 3.0 |
| Value of work done in period (c) | \$m | Dec. qtr 94 | 2,429 | 4.5 | 6.5 | 7,368 | 4.0 | 9.5 |
| Engineering Construction | | | | | | | | |
| Private contractors— | | | | | | | | |
| Value of work commenced | \$m | Dec. qtr 94 | 924 | 52.0 | 61.4 | 1,828 | 2.1 | 13.6 |
| Value of work done | \$m | Dec. qtr 94 | 537 | 0.4 | 5.9 | 1,625 | -5.9 | -5.3 |
| Value of work yet to be done | \$m | Dec. qtr 94 | 1,357 | 38.3 | 44.2 | 3,169 | 6.7 | 24.1 |
| Value of work done by public sector | \$m | Dec. qtr 94 | 583 | 31.4 | 30.4 | 1,514 | 20.7 | 18.2 |
| Finance | | | | | | | | |
| Housing finance for owner occupation—secured | | | | | | | | |
| commitments to individuals by significant lenders | \$m | Mar. 95 | 1,381 | 19.6 | -27.0 | 3,919 | 15.9 | -27.1 |
| Personal finance commitments—significant lenders | \$m | Mar. 95 | 897 | 25.7 | 2.9 | 2,685 | 23.3 | 6.3 |
| Commercial finance commitments—significant lenders | \$m | Mar. 95 | 4,697 | 49.9 | 20.5 | 9,550 | 40.9 | 0.7 |
| Savings balances at end of month— | | | | | | | | |
| All banks (d) (Source: Reserve Bank) | \$m | Mar. 95 | 113,649 | 1.9 | (e) | 254,475 | 1.0 | 7.8 |
| Building societies | \$m | Mar. 95 | 3,334 | 0.6 | 11.4 | 11,897 | 0.6 | 13.5 |
| Credit unions | \$m | Mar. 95 | 5,170 | 1.7 | 11.9 | 11,781 | 1.8 | 10.8 |
| Actual New Fixed Capital Expenditure (f) | | | | | | | | |
| | \$m | Dec. qtr 94 | 3,077 | 12.8 | 37.9 | 9,331 | 17.6 | 21.4 |
| New buildings and structures | \$m | Dec. qtr 94 | 599 | -7.9 | 37.6 | 2,288 | 18.0 | -1.9 |
| Equipment, plant and machinery | \$m | Dec. qtr 94 | 2,477 | 19.4 | 38.0 | 7,042 | 17.5 | 31.6 |

(a) Average weekly overtime hours for those employees who were paid for overtime. (b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Average of 1989-90 prices. (d) Average of weekly deposit balances. (e) Unavailable owing to revisions being done nationally only. (f) By private enterprises.



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